

March 17, 2019  
Connecticut General Assembly  
Planning and Development Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room 1D  
Public Hearing, Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> 2019  
Hartford, CT 06106

Via: Email Attachment

**Personal Testimony of Jennifer Colello of 32 Cranbury Drive Trumbull, CT 06611**

**In strong opposition to HB 7192 that would, An act concerning municipal and regional opportunities and efficiencies, and any similar bills including but not limited to related bills SB738, SB457, SB874, SB454.**

My family is vehemently opposed to any bill that takes away authority from Local Education Agencies/Board of Education located in my town. This includes HB 7192. After all who knows better the needs of our town's children?

Nothing written in any of the bills that support school regionalization cites advancing our children's education. Is that being lost here? The quality of education is being sacrificed for the hope of saving money? I have come across no evidence brought forth that demonstrates substantial savings.

I also take issue with language repeated in separate bills before separate committees. What is the goal here? Clearly these bills are being brought before other committees after having faced heavy scrutiny when presented to the Education committee. Was the hope that since it was brought before Planning & Development that it would face less scrutiny?

The lack of transparency in these bills' presentation is disheartening. In addition, repeated insinuations that these bills will not adversely affect our children but benefit them with no reference to how is appalling. I, for one, am not willing to let my children become guinea pigs to test these regionalization efforts without any positive evidentiary support.

Jennifer Colello